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Amateur Radio Newsline #970 15 Mar 1996

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NEWSLINE RADIO - CBBS EDITION #970 - POSTED 03/15/96

The following is late news about Amateur Radio for Radio Amateurs as prepared from NEWSLINE RADIO scripts by the staff of the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, INC. -- formerly the WESTLINK RADIO NETWORK.

Amateur Radio Newsline is a audio news service distributed via telephone.

This hardcopy version is produced by Dale Cary - WD0AKO from scripts provided to him weekly by Newsline. It is then distributed to on-line services, bbs networks and internet user jointly by Dale Cary and Steve Coletti.

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The audio version of Newsline can be recorded from one of the currently operating lines listed below. This list is kept as accurate as possible. If any changes are not listed, please contact Dale Cary, WDOAKO at the above listed addresses.

Audio Version of Newsline

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GEnie (RTC Bulletin Board)
Dallas Remote Imaging BBS (DRIG) (214) 492-7573 In bulletin number 36
The Midwest Connection BBS (701) 239-2440 In bulletin number 6 of the ham radio conference
Delphi
MicroSoft Network Amateur Radio File Library InternetIn the rec.radio.info newsgroup Internet FTP: oak.oakland.edu
In archive: pub/hamradio/docs/newsline Local BBS'sIn the Ham Radio conferences on
Fidonet, RIME, Intelec, I-Link, AR-Net and Fringenet.

True Speech Internet Site

http://www.scott.net/~wa4fat

For the latest breaking info call the Instant Update Line listed above. To provide information please call (805) 296-7180. This line answers automatically and will accept up to 30 minutes of material.

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For further information about the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, please write to us with an S.A.S.E. at:

NEWSLINE c/o Andy Jarema-N6TCQ P.O.Box 660937 Arcadia, CA 91066

> Thank You, NEWSLINE

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Some of the hams of AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE:

WA6ITF WB6MQV WB6FDF K6DUE W6RCL N6AHU N6AWE N6TCQ K6PGX N6PNY KU8R N8DTN W9JUV KC9RP K9XI KB4KCH KC5UD KC0HF G8AUU WD0AKO DJ0QN and many others in the United States and around the globe!!!

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(* * * CLOSED CIRCUIT ADVISORY * * *
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      The following advisory is not necessarily for
    transmission over amateur radio. This is just a
(*
(*
    reminder that the address for the Newsline Support
    Fund is:
(*
                      Newsline
(*
                      c/o Andy Jarema-N6TCQ
(*
                      P.O.Box 660937
(*
(*
                      Arcadia, California
(*
                      91066
(*
(*
      Again, and as always, we thank you. This ends
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    the closed circuit with Newsline report number 970
(*
    for release on Friday, March 15th 1996 to follow.
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The following is a QST

Our ham bands may be coming under the government budget ax and the ARRL is working to protect them from reallocation. Also, the 1996 DARA awards are announced and the family of a murdered ARRL is offering a reward to help solve the case. These stories and more on Newsline report number 970

coming your way right now!

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AUCTION THREAT TO HAM BANDS

Could our hams bands be auctioned off to the highest bidder as a result of spectrum utilization hearings no going on in Washington? The American Radio Relay League is taking action to see that this does not occur. We have more in this special report from Amateur News Weekly in Ohio:

What are the possibilities of losing our amateur bands? It may be greater than you think. The Congressional Budget Office in Washington, D.C. has started to evaluate the amateur radio spectrum as well as other services for its potential auction value. It is thought that this action has been brought on as a way to lower the Federal Budget Deficit. In the past the FCC has auctioned off segments of the RF spectrum as a way to settle disagreement between twoor more entities wanting the same section of a particular band.

The ARRL has supplied documentation to the Congressional Budget Office highlighting the positive aspects of amateur radio in such areas as emergency communications and other contributions to society in attempt to insure the amateur bands continued to be excluded from any further action. Amateurs should make sure that their congressmen and senators representing their area are aware of the full extent that amateur radio plays in their districts.

By the way. The American Radio Relay League is the only organization representing Amateur Radio that is taking an active part in these hearings. Other groups claiming to be a voice for United States hams have not even bothered to show up in Washington to make their voices heard.

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FAMILY OF SLAIN HAM COUPLE OFFERS \$10,000 REWARD

The family of retired ARRL Director Floyd Teetson, W5MUG and his wife Winnie, WN5YTR has offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and successful prosecution of the couple's killer or killers. The Teetsons were found slain at their home near Heflin, Louisiana, on February 23rd.

Authorities in Louisiana now believe the couple died on the evening of February 21st. Newspaper reports quote the Webster Parish coroner's investigator as saying he believes the murder was the work of one person. The Teetsons' minivan, which had been parked under a carport adjoining a utility shed where the couple's bodies were found, has been taken to a police crime lab. The vehicle's rear hatch was open when police first arrived and discovered the bodies.

The Webster Parish Sheriff's Department and Louisiana State Police have questioned several individuals, but have made no arrests, according to news

reports.

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MITNICK HEARING DATE SET

A probation violation hearing in the case of convicted computer hacker Kevin David Mitnick, N6NHG, is now set for April Fools day. Word on the air in Los Angeles is that the hearing for the alleged computer super hacker will take place on April the 1st.

Mitnick is being held in federal detention in Los Angeles after being arrested last year in North Carolina on separate charges of computer hacking. At the hearing, Federal Prosecutors will go through the legal motions to have Mitnick remanded into custody for violating the terms of his probation on an earlier hacking conviction.

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DAYTON AWARDS

The Emmys' and Oscar's of ham radio have been announced. The Dayton Amateur Radio Association has named three outstanding hams as recipients of this years prestigious DARA awards. We have this report:

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association has named AMSAT North America President Bill Tynan, W3XO, as its 1996 Radio Amateur of the Year. Tynan was selected for this prestigious honor based on his lifelong dedication to championing the cause of VHF and UHF enthusiasts, and ham radio space communications, worldwide.

For the past eighteen years, W3XO has been contributing editor for QST Magazine's "World above 50 MHZ" column. He has used the column to provide a medium to nurture new communication techniques, encourage DX performance and improve contesting rules on the VHF and UHF bands.

But Bill Tynans' greatest contribution to the new world of Amateur Radio was his pioneering the establishment of the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation. From the founding days of the first OSCAR-6 launch to his present post as president, Bill Tynan, W3XO has sacrificed much of his personal time, talent and resources to the promotion and development of the amateur satellite program.

He was one of the early key members of the SAREX working group. And his vision continues with the Phase 3D ham satellite project, scheduled for launch in December. Thanks to Bill Tynan's guiding hand, Phase 3D will usher in an entirely new dimension of amateur radio space relay communications technology.

Chosen to receive the DARA Special Achievement Award is Professor John Kraus, W8JK. Professor Kraus has contributed much to advancements in antenna design over the years with several new antennas including the W8JK beam antenna. He also invented the helical antenna and most recognizable the "Big Ear" antenna. With the building of the "Big Ear" antenna came the famous "Wow" signal... an extraterrestrial signal that science has not yet

been able to be explain.

Last but by no means least, the DARA Technical Excellence award goes to a name that just about every ham will recognize. That of William I. Orr, W6SAT.

Bill Orr as he is better known, has inspired new and veteran hams alike with his consistent encouragement and technical expertise. Amateur radio has benefited from numerous Bill Orr publications including The Radio Handbook, the Beam Antenna Handbook, The Quad Antenna Handbook, The UHF/VHF Manual, and many other ham shack standards.

For many years W6SAI wrote the monthly "Radio Fundamentals" column in CQ magazine. He retired only last year, but hundreds of letters from hams worldwide prompted him to come out of retirement.

Bill Tynan W3XO, Professor John Kraus W8JK and Bill Orr, W6SAI will receive their awards at the Dayton Hamvention Grand Banquet the evening of May 18th. Newsline will be there live to bring you highlights of the festivities.

We will have more on the 1996 DARA Award winners next week.

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ALABAMA TORNADO

One person was killed and about 45 people were hurt by the storm, which spawned tornadoes, high winds and heavy rains in Selma, Alabama on Wednesday, March 3rd. Violent winds ripped down trees and utility poles, peeled pieces off roofs and twisted an 800 foot tall broadcast tower into crumpled metal.

The coordinator of emergency services for Dallas County told the media that ham radio operators assisted by reporting on damage to dwellings. Some of the information flow concerned trailers that exploded, overturned or blown into nearby trees. Hams also reported on ten other trailer homes that were destroyed at a 50 home park north of Selma.

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TRAIN CRASH AID

Ham radio also stepped in to help after a freight train carrying liquid propane derailed early on the morning of March 4 in Weyauwega, Wisconsin. One tanker car exploded, and others caught on fire.

Authorities quickly evacuated 1700 residents of the town, west of Appleton in Waupaca County, fearing another explosion. Among those evacuated were residents of two nursing homes.

County Emergency Coordinator Robert Krueger, N9BKF, says the Wisconsin Division of Emergency Government called the hams in immediately after the incident. He says that ARES volunteers from several counties worked in three shifts around the clock to provide communication for emergency personnel. Hams also provided communications for the American Red Cross, which has set up two shelters in the town of Waupaca.

Krueger, who is also County RACES officer for Waupaca, says that hams used several 2 meter repeaters to support communication at the incident command post and at a staging area back from the scene. RACES volunteers handled long-haul traffic on 75 meters to the state Division of Emergency Government and the Red Cross in Madison. As we go to air, this emergency situation is still ongoing.

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LAMBDA ARC RAISES \$1,000 TO AID ANGUILLA HAMS

And the Lambda Amateur Radio Club has raised a total of \$1,050 to aid Anguilla hams and L.A.R.C. members Dave and Dorothea Mann. Dave and Dorothea are VP2EHF and VP2EE respectively. The monies will go to help in recovery efforts in the wake of last year's devastating hurricane season.

Half of the funds were donated by L.A.R.C. members and the balance was contributed by the VP2EJA Group. The money has been disbursed to the Mann's to aid in the purchase of much-needed tools and supplies and to help pay for equipment repair and replacement.

The Lambda Amateur Radio Club is a public service oriented ham radio club for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered hams and their friends. The group can be reached by e-mail to:

lambdaclub@aol.com

The club can also be reached by U.S. Mail to:

P.O.Box 24810 Philadelphia, PA 19130

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FCC PETITIONED TO STOP FREE INTERNET PHONE CALLS

The days of making free long distance telephone calls free over the internet may soon be coming to an end. This is because The America's Carriers Telecommunication Association, a trade association of competitive, long distance carriers has petitioned the Federal Communications Commission to stop companies from selling software and hardware products that enable use of the Internet to voice long distance services.

In their March 4th filing to the commission, ACTA says that a growing number of companies is selling software programs with ancillary hardware options that enable a computer to transmit voice conversations. This says ACTA, creates the ability for Internet users to by-pass local, long distance and international carriers and allows for calls to be made for virtually no cost.

ACTA says that it is incumbent for the FCC to exercise jurisdiction over the use of the Internet for unregulated interstate and international telecommunications services. It says that long distance and international carriers must be approved by the FCC to operate and must file tariffs before both the FCC and state public service commissions. All of these requirements are stipulated in the Communications Act of 1934 and the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

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SAREX ON STS-76

The Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment, or SAREX will fly again on the nine day Shuttle Mission STS-76. During the mission, the shuttle will rendezvous and dock with the Russian Space Station Mir.

Among those in the crew who hold amateur licenses are, Astronaut Richard Searfoss, KC5CKM who will serve as the Shuttle's Pilot, Mission Specialist Linda Godwin, N5RAX and Ronald Sega, KC5ETH, The remaining crew members include Commander Kevin Chilton, and Mission Specialists Shannon Lucid and Michael Clifford. Lucid will remain on Mir for a 5 month stay.

This will be Linda Godwin's third shuttle flight. She used ham radio aboard the shuttle Atlantis during STS-37 in April 1991, and from aboard Endeavour during STS-59 in April 1994. Searfoss last operated SAREX from the Space Shuttle Columbia during mission STS-58 in November of 1993. This will be his second Shuttle flight. Ronald Sega used SAREX from Discovery during the first joint U.S. Russian shuttle mission, STS-60, in February 1994.

Landing is scheduled for March 30th at 17:07 UTC at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

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AMSAT FEATURED ON DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Members of the Phase 3D International Project Team are getting national publicity on the Discovery Channel this month on a program called "Eyes in the Sky." The show features members of the AMSAT P3D team working on the satellite at AMSAT's Orlando, Florida Integration Laboratory. Those interested in seeing "Eyes in the Sky" should consult local cable listings for their area.

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JY1: YES ON MID EAST PEACE

On the international scene, Jordan's King Hussein, JY1, is in the news once again. His Majesty was in Washington last week where he joined the U.S. led battle to prevent a wave of terrorist bombings in Israel from destroying chances for peace in the Middle East. In a meeting on Thursday, March 14th with President Bill Clinton, the king said the bombings, which have killed 57 people were the work of a small group acting against an overwhelming majority of people in the middle-east who are seeking a lasting peace.

According to several newspaper reports, King Hussein's powerful words

helped to strengthen a United States led drive to isolate the militants behind the bombing campaign and keep the Middle East peace process alive.

While JY1 has condemned the bombings previously, his presence in the White House alongside President Clinton gives a much higher profile to his own anti-terror stand.

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ARRL COMMITTEE TO STUDY DXCC

ARRL President Rod Stafford, KB6ZV, has appointed John Kanode, N4MM, to chair a committee to review the leagues' worldwide DXCC Program. The panel will recommend changes necessary to encourage broader participation by more amateurs. These include making the program more equitable, creating a better understood criteria for DXCC countries, improving the process of reviewing requests for additions and deletions to the DXCC countries list and increasing overall efficiency in the administration of the program.

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AOL DX NET

In DX, a new DX net is coming on-line. And we do mean on-line. On March 19, 1996 at 9:00 PM EST, that's 02:00Z UTC, turn off your amplifiers and meet in the America Online conference room for a DX chat. Rick Snyder, KD1VW will be your host. He says that the area is not frequented by DX'ers and it would be a good place to discuss the weeks on-air finds.

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SHORT UK CONTEST CALL SIGNS AUTHORIZED

From the contest corner, look for so-called short United Kingdom contest call signs like GM6A or GJ6C to start showing up around May 1.

Great Britain's Radiocommunications Agency has agreed to let U.K. stations use such call signs during major contests. The RSGB HF Contest Committee will administer the system.

With the new M-series prefixes also to be issued starting April 1, contesters also might hear call signs like M6A or MW6D appearing from the U.K. during the next operating event.

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NEWSLINE 1000

A reminder to mark Friday October 4th on your calendar. That's the day that we here at Newsline will release our 1000th newscast.

Yes, we did say our 1000th newscast and we want your ideas on how to celebrate nineteen and a quarter years of bringing you news and information about ham radio. If you have a suggestion please mail it to us at:

NEWSLINE

P.O.Box 660937 Arcadia, CA 91066

or electronically to:

billwa6itf@aol.com

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MORE VANITY CALLSIGN DELAY

If you are wondering why the vanity call sign program is still on hold, look to some of your fellow hams for the answer. Several are still petitioning the FCC for last minute changes in the program. Those petitions, coupled with a mandate from congress to implement the Telecommunications Rewrite Act have put vanity calls on hold at least until at least mid year.

Still awaiting FCC action are Petitions for Reconsideration filed last fall by Charnelle H. Summers, W4IJE; David B. Popkin, W2CC; Robert Nelson, on behalf of the Hill Country Amateur Radio Club; and Christine M. Gill, on behalf of the Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association.

As noted, it appears as if the FCC will not even begin to look at any of these petitions until early this summer. How long after that it will take to dispose of them is not known. And there is always the possibility that more petitions for reconsideration could arrive. By law, each must be addressed.

Even worse, some of the current crop of petitioners might take their cause further if the commission does not give them a decision favorable to a given position. This means appeals before the full commission and maybe even taking the matter into federal court, if they have the money and the desire to do so.

Meantime, the FCC vanity callsign application Form 610V is now available, but the FCC will not accept completed forms until the appropriate filing gates are opened.

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And for this week, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline. You can write to us at:

NEWSLINE P.O.Box 660937 Arcadia, CA 91066

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF at our editors desk, we at Newsline say 73 and we thank you for listening.

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